ReadyReturn PILOT IMPLEMENTATION

PURPOSE OF BULLETIN

To advise staff that we will implement the ReadyReturn pilot on February 15, 2005.

BACKGROUND

ReadyReturn is an FTB pilot program designed to ease the filing burden for taxpayers who file the simplest returns.

As part of this pilot, we:

- Selected a limited number of taxpayers (50,000).
- Invite them to participate in the pilot.
- Mail them a completed tax return using information we already have. (We plan to mail the returns between February 15, 2005, and March 15, 2005.)
- Explain how to participate and what to do if they don't want to.
- Allow them to make changes to their returns.
- Provide a way to e-file the return.

All the taxpayer needs to do is verify the information, make any necessary changes, and sign and submit the return (either on paper or through e-file).

Later this year we will study taxpayer reaction to the pilot.

ReadyReturn INQUIRIES

Taxpayers with ReadyReturn inquiries may contact us at:

- (800) 522-4144
- Via email at ReadyReturn@ftb.ca.gov

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE READY RETURN PILOT?

To ensure the statistical validity of the ReadyReturn pilot, only selected taxpayers will be able to participate.

In general, we are selecting taxpayers who:

- Used the single filing status on their 2003 return.
- Claimed no dependents.

(Cont.)

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN READY RETURN?

- Took the standard deduction.
- Have income derived from wages only.
- Had only one employer in 2004.

THE ReadyReturn WEBSITE

We have built a Web application that taxpayers can use to e-file their ReadyReturn: www.ftb.ca.gov/ReadyReturn

Note: The Web address will be available February 15, 2005.

Taxpayers log in using their Social Security Number and CSN (called "Access Code" for this application).

The application allows taxpayers to add direct deposit, schedule an electronic payment, make any necessary changes, and e-file their return directly to us.

WHERE TO MAIL RETURNS

Taxpayers who want to file the paper ReadyReturn we mail them should use the standard return mailing addresses.